

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 RSR-01 /120 W
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P R 170850Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4735

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY ITEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6119

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJECT: AFGHAN REACTION TO ARREST IN BALUCHISTAN OF
NAP OFFICIALS

1. ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 17 I WAS REQUESTED TO COME TO THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AT 11:30 A.M.
KABUL TIME, I WAS RECEIVED BY DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
WAHID ABDULLAH WHO INFORMED ME THAT HE HAD ASKED TO SEE ME ON
THE INSTRUCTION OF THE PRESIDENT IN ORDER TO READ TO ME THE
FOLLOWING STATEMENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: " IT IS WITH PROFOUND REGRET THAT I MUST
FORMALLY INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THE RECENT DECISION OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN IN IMPRISONING THE LEADERS OF THE
NATIONAL AWAMI LEAGUE, INCLUDING MR. GHASUS BAKSH BEZANJO,
MR. ATTAULLAH MENGAL, MR. KHAIR BAKSH MARRY, MR. ABDUR-
RAHMAN, MR. GULKHAN NASSIR, COLONEL SULTAN, IS REGARDED AS A
MOVE TO SUPPRESS THE NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF
PUSHTUNISTAN, AND IS THE FIRST STEP TAKEN CONTRARY TO OUR
EXPECTATIONS SINCE THE NEW REGIME WAS ESTABLISHED IN AFGHANISTAN.

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THE ADOPTION OF SUCH AN ACTION IS HIGHLY IRRITATING, AND IF

CONTINUED AFGHANISTAN CANNOT, IN ANY MANNER, REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO IT. THE GOODWILL WHICH WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED TOWARDS PAKISTAN AND WHICH HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY EXPLAINED TO YOUR EXCELLENCY BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HEAD OF STATE AND MYSELF ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, WILL BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION ON THE PART OF PAKISTAN, AND THE RELATIONS THAT EXIST BETWEEN THESE TWO COUNTRIES MIGHT DETERIORATE. I THEREFORE REQUEST YOUR EXCELLENCY TO USE YOUR GOOD OFFICES AS A FRIEND OF BOTH PARTIES, TO PREVENT THE SITUATION FROM FURTHER DETERIORATION."

END TEXT.

3. I TOOK NOTE OF THE STATEMENT AND INFORMED THE DEPUTY MINISTER THAT I WOULD IMMEDIATELY BRING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF MY GOVERNMENT. I EXPRESSED THE STRONG HOPE THAT WISE COUNSEL WOULD PREVAIL AND THAT ALL PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES MIGHT BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY. MR. ABDULLAH SAID THAT HE SHARED MY HOPE AND THAT HE WANTED TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS PROCEEDING WITH THAT SPIRIT IN MIND. HE REMARKED HOWEVER, THAT THE PRESIDENT IS GREATLY UPSET BY THE FACT THAT THE ARRESTS MENTIONED IN THE STATEMENT OCCURRED SO SOON AFTER THE FORMATION OF THE NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. (WHEN BY INFERENCE THE GOVERNMENT HAD OTHER PROBLEMS).

4. I THEN ASKED THE DEPUTY MINISTER WHETHER THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS THE ONLY ONE WHOSE GOOD OFFICES WERE REQUESTED. ABDULLAH REPLIED THAT THE SAME REQUEST WAS ALSO ADDRESSED TO THE AMBASSADORS OF THE USSR AND IRAN. A DIFFERENTLY WORDED NOTE WITH APPROPRIATE CONTEXT WAS ALSO BEING HANDED TO THE PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR.
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